

# Towards a national working group on cross-border issues

Working group on innovative solutions to  
cross-border obstacles  
Brussels – 14.12.2016

**cget**

# 1<sup>st</sup> step : Analyzing the French contributions to the EU public consultation

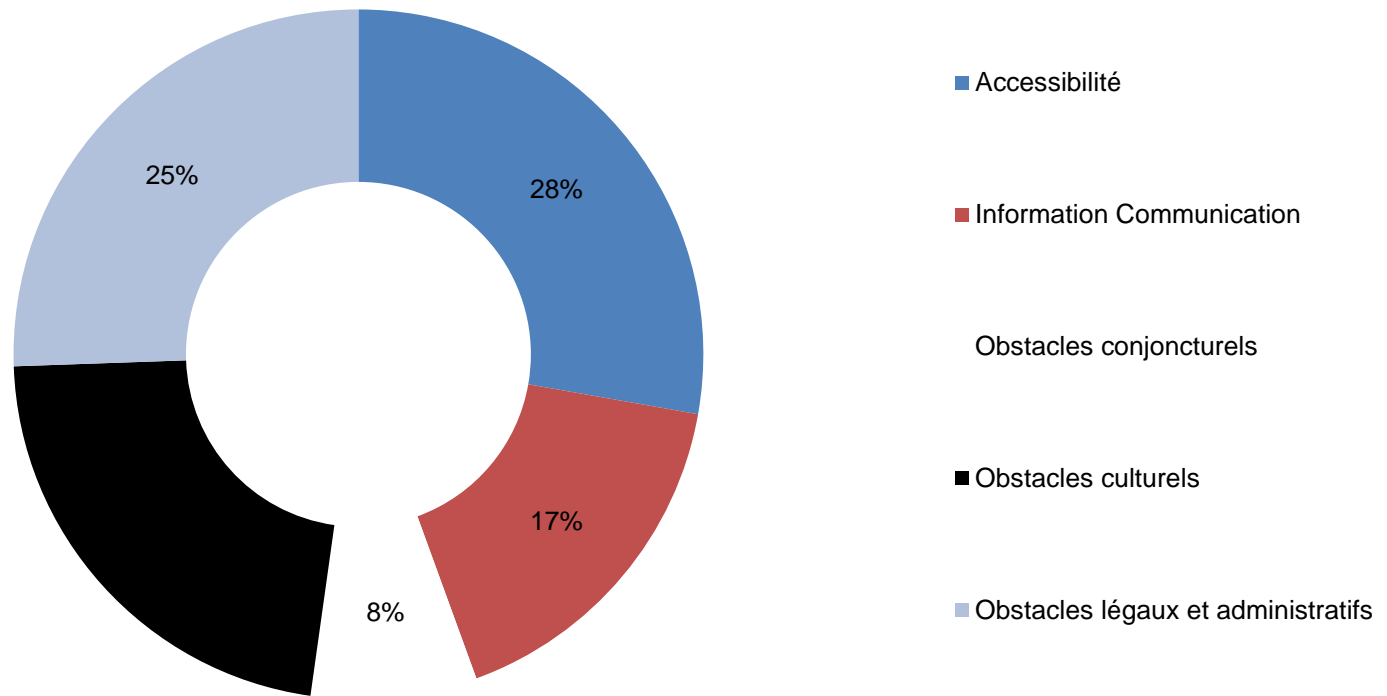
## ■ Methodology :

- only the contributions from the ground were analyzed (not the contributions from national stakeholders)
- 30 replies containing in average three kinds of obstacles -> 94 obstacles

## ■ Main findings :

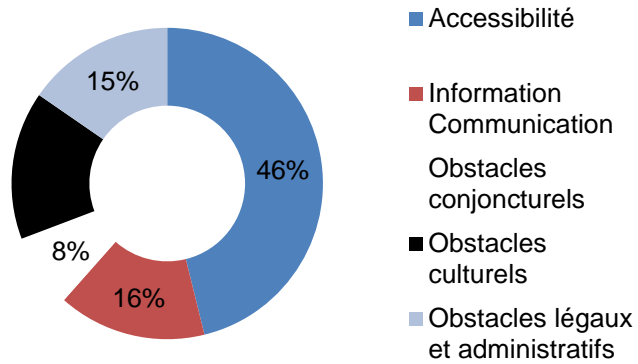
- All the borders are not equally represented (IT and outermost regions : 1 contribution each)
- Contributions are more based on the perception than on documented situations
- Ranking is slightly different from the one at European level :
  - 1. *Accessibility obstacles*
  - 2. *Legal and administrative obstacles*
  - 3. *Cultural obstacles*
  - 4. *Conjectural/Situational obstacles*

# Overview of the obstacles at French borders

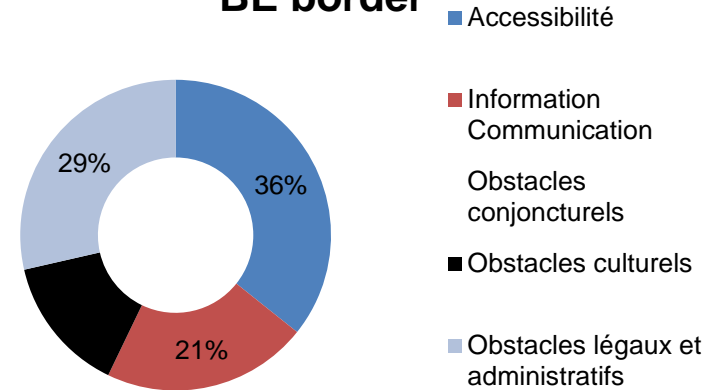


# 1. Accessibility

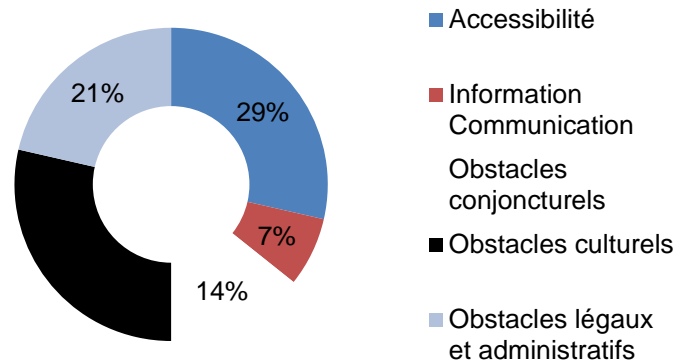
## Congested infrastructures at FR-LU border



## Lacking infrastructures at FR-BE border

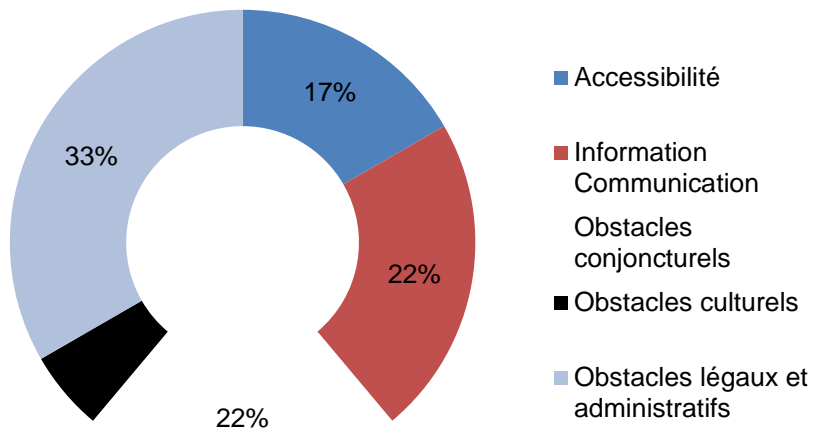


## Transports too costly at FR-UK border

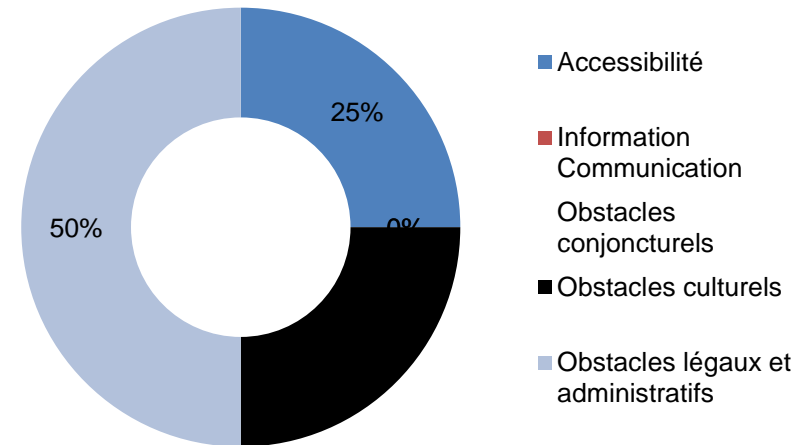


## 2. Legal and administrative obstacles : especially by cooperating with third countries

Many legal and administrative obstacles and loss of trust at FR-CH border

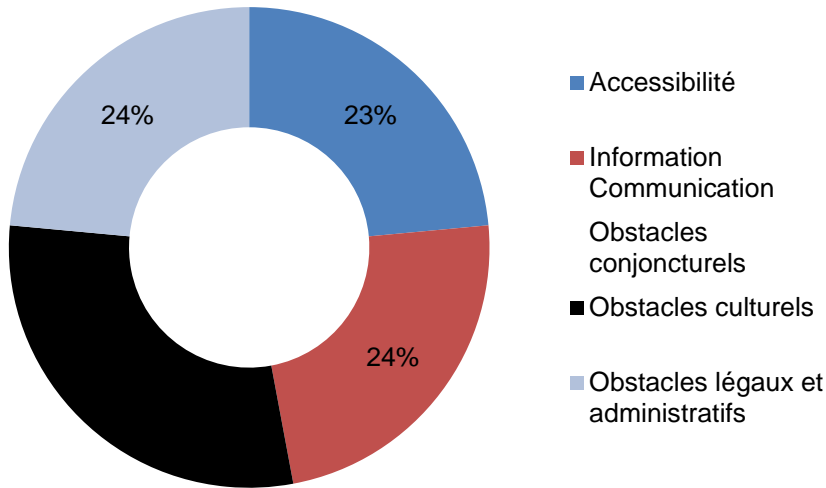


In French Guyana, crossing the border could be difficult

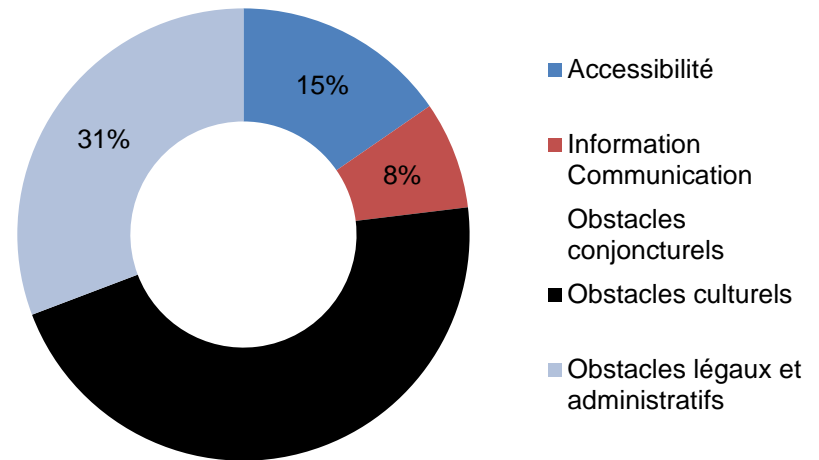


# 3. Cultural obstacles

## Lacking language skills at FR-DE border



## Trust building at FR-SP border



# 2<sup>nd</sup> step : Testing the matrix with case studies

## ■ Methodology :

- Contributions from the ground were not documented enough to test the matrix
- Four case studies from the European CB review

## ■ Main findings :

- 4 items were added :
  - Available documentation on the obstacle
  - Public concerned
  - Impact on the ground
  - Organizations already working on the policy field concerned
- Perception and reality can be very different :
  - Questioning the political proactivity and willingness to cooperate : communication and visibility of actions undertaken?
  - View from the ground / from the experts

# ***Proposition : a comprehensive matrix consistent with existing initiatives***

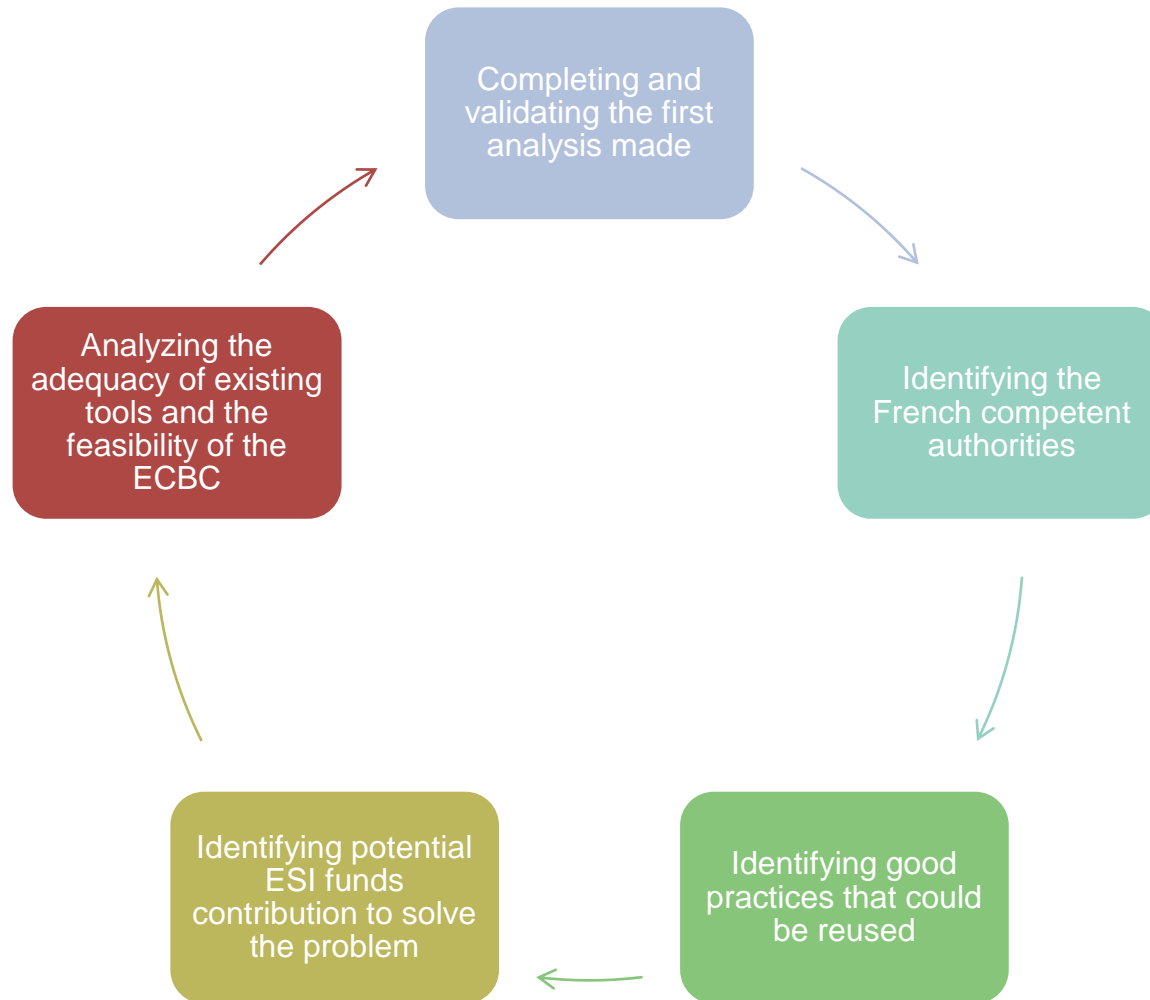
1. *Border concerned.*
2. *Localization.*
3. *Specificities of the territory: Urban / rural / mountainous / littoral...*
4. *Policy field: healthcare / education / employment...*
5. *Nature of the obstacle: legal / cultural / administrative...*
6. *Competent authority: local administration / regional administration / State / Europe.*
7. *Level of resolution: local / regional / national / international.*
8. *Scope of action: unilateral / bilateral / multilateral.*
9. *Structured framework of cooperation: structured governance / intergovernmental agreement.*
10. *Experience that could inspire authorities.*
11. *Existing tool or mechanism that could apply in the situation.*
12. *For legal, regulatory, or technical obstacle: added value and feasibility of the ECBC (European cross-border convention)?*
13. *ETC Programs on the geographical zone?*
14. *Project(s) already financed on this thematic?*
15. *Thematic covered by the ETC programs of the zone?*



# Conclusions

- Establishing a multilevel governance : experts, ministries and local authorities based a long-term process and permanent tools.
- Improving the communication around projects and cooperation actions
- Deepening the analysis of ETC programs (strategies and projects) and the border needs

# A systematic approach to tackle cross border impediments



*Thank you for your attention*

[melanie.charotte@cget.gouv.fr](mailto:melanie.charotte@cget.gouv.fr)